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DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LIST

OF

Improved Varieties of Chestnut and Walnut

E. A. RIEHL, Godfrey, Illinois



ALL kinds of nuts are becoming more in demand as our population increases and the wild supply diminishes. Especially is this true since nuts are coming more and more into use as an article of food. In sections where the chestnut does not grow wild, it is free of all insect pests or diseases. Even San Jose scale does not harm it. The chestnut blight, which threatens to wipe out all the chestnut forests, need not be feared where the chestnut does not grow in the surrounding forests, provided growers do not make the mistake of buying trees from Eastern nurseries where the blight has spread. In the forty years that I have grown chestnuts, I have not seen a dozen nuts that had a worm in them, nor do I think it likely that they will be introduced for many years to come. The native chestnut forests are too far away, and artificial plantings too few and scattered to form a bridge.

The market for chestnuts is not likely to be fully supplied for many years, if ever. The prices for first class nuts are excellent. My crop, this season (1919) sold readily in Chicago for 40 to 45 cents per pound, wholesale.

I know of no more promising horticultural proposition than chestnut growing. I have planted thousands of trees and am still planting, confident they will pay me better than anything else would. Lands too broken for cultivation can be planted to chestnut with great profit, and when the trees are large enough, can be pastured. However, if chestnuts are planted on good orchard land and well cultivated, they will make better growth and produce profitable crops much sooner.

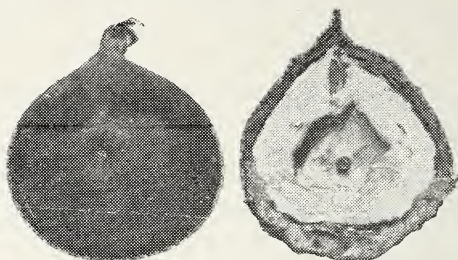
I have on my premises a native chestnut tree, planted in 1863, that is between 60 and 70 feet high, and 7 feet 6 inches in circumference. It has borne regular crops ever since coming into bearing. I make this statement simply as evidence that the chestnut will thrive in sections where the soil is right, that is, where there is good drainage and not underlaid with hard pan. The common American chestnut is too small and requires too long to come into bearing to be worthy of planting, especially as we have others that are larger, come into bearing earlier and are of fine quality.

About thirty years ago I became interested in nut culture, procuring nuts from all parts of the country that I heard of as promising, and that could be procured, among them some twenty-five varieties of chestnut. Most of these were of Japan strain, and of too poor quality. The Paragon is a good nut but it has the fault of over-bearing so as to dwarf the tree and often causing it to die, also the burr does not open readily and to get the nuts they must be threshed or dug out

by hand. For these reasons I do not grow or propagate it. The following varieties have been found better and are the ones I grow and recommend:

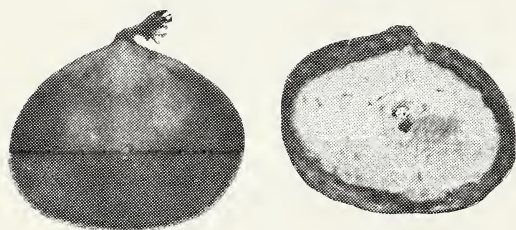
BOONE

Originated by the late Geo.W. Endicott, of Villa Ridge, Ill. In the spring of 1895 he fertilized blossoms of Japan Giant with pollen of the native American. The seed thus produced was planted in the spring of 1896 in rich soil. In the fall of 1897, one of the trees grown from these seeds produced six burrs filled with nuts. This was named Boone. It has borne annually since, increased quantities as it got older until in 1911 it produced 140 pounds. Young trees often bear in the nursery row. One of the earliest bearing and earliest ripening varieties we have. Nut large and of excellent quality. Tree a good grower and abundantly productive. Its only fault is that it is very hard to propagate.



PROGRESS

A seedling of Rochester, originated by me, and fruited for several years. The nut is large, of excellent quality. The tree is a good grower and excellent bearer; better than the older varieties. Am planting it largely.



FULLER

Also a seedling of Rochester, originated by me. One of the best in quality of any cultivated chestnut. Tree a fine grower and good bearer. Worthy extensive planting.



RUSH CHINQUAPIN

A near relative to the chestnut, but small, sweeter than any chestnut. Tree small, early bearer, often bears in nursery row. Too small for commercial planting. Fine for home grounds.

Do not plant seeds or seedlings of chestnuts, or any other nut, expecting to get trees that will bear nuts of the same quality. They will vary just as much as apple, pear, peach or any other fruit. It does not pay to plant seedlings, unless it is the intention to bud or graft later to known good varieties. Chestnuts do not bear well unless two or more varieties are planted near each other, as they need cross pollenization.

Black Walnuts

THOMAS

This variety of the black walnut was originated in Pennsylvania. A tree procured fifteen years ago, and others propagated and grafted onto wild stocks, have borne well. Nut large, kernel large and of excellent quality, cracking quality excellent, ninety per cent coming out in halves and quarters, producing ten pounds of meat to the bushel, which sell at fifty to eighty cents per pound. I think this one of the best nuts to plant in this section for profit.

STABLER

Smaller than Thomas, cracks even better, most of the kernels coming out in halves, very promising.

I am not in the nursery business, and have no other stock to sell.

PRICES:

Boone Chestnut,	-	-	-	-	-	\$2.00 each
Progress Chestnut,		-	-	-	-	1.25 each
Fuller Chestnut,	-	-	-	-	-	1.50 each
Rush Chinquapin,	-	-	-	-	-	1.50 each
Thomas Black Walnut,	-	-	-	-	-	1.50 each
Stabler Black Walnut		-	-	-	-	1.50 each

The above prices include packing when order amounts to \$5 or more.

Nurserymen and large planters please write for special quotations.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 19, 1919.

E. A. Riehl, Godfrey, Ill.

Chestnuts received yesterday. Fine! Agreeably surprised by flavor. Did not know any cultivated varieties were nearly so good.

Yours sincerely,

J. LEWIS PETTMER.

Lancaster, Pa., Nov. 1, 1915.

Dear Mr. Riehl:—

You have them all skinned to a finish on fine chestnuts. The growing of chestnuts now in localities not likely to get the blight, offers very attractive inducements. I think I would prefer Progress chestnuts to any other of your seedlings. This has the real look and quality of the American sweet chestnut, and its light color makes it more attractive I think. Fuller would be my second choice.

Very truly yours,

J. F. JONES.

United States Department of Agriculture,
Bureau of Plant Industry.

Washington, D. C., March 23, 1915.

Dear Mr. Riehl:—

The chestnuts which you sent us about the middle of October were held in cold storage until about a month ago, when we went over them carefully. Several of us agreed that Fuller is the most delicately flavored of any. It is a little sweeter, though not so large as Rochester. It has a brighter color and is therefore a little more attractive in appearance. Apparently the nuts are the best keepers of any in the lot, for although they have stood on my desk for fully a month, the kernels are now soft enough to be eaten readily.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

C. A. REED,

In charge of nut culture investigations.